



Climate change and internal migration intentions in the forest-savannah transition zone of Ghana

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Abstract:

Migration is at the centre of demographic research on the population-environment nexus. Increasing concerns about the impacts of environmental events on human population are fuelling interest on the relationship between migration and environmental change. Using data from the Climate Change Collective Learning and Observatory Network Ghana project, we employ binary logistic regression to examine migration intentions of households in response to major community stressors including climate-related ones. The results indicate that the type of community stressor that affects households most does not differentiate migration intentions in Ghana's forest-savannah transition zone: Even though the majority of the respondents mentioned climate-related events as the stressor that affects them the most, such events do not appear to directly explain migration intentions. However, socio-demographic factors such as age, household size and current migration status are significant predictors of migration intentions, with younger household heads, heads of migrant households and heads of smaller households being relatively more likely to have migration intentions than other household heads. We conclude that migration drivers are multifaceted and deserve further research because even in areas with perceived environmental stress, climate-related events may not be the primary motivation for migration intentions.

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11111-013-0191-y>

Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Human Conflict/Displacement

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Other Geographical Feature

Other Geographical Feature : forest-savannah

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Non-United States: Africa

African Region/Country: African Country

Other African Country: Ghana

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Resource Type: ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified